

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8933

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3511

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, UN

SUBJECT: UN ADMINISTRATION: DONAUPARK COMPLEX

REF: (A) STATE 206948 (B) USUN 3120

1. SUMMARY: USYG DAVIDSON PROVIDED USUN HIS THINKING ON UN UTILIZATION OF AVAILABLE SPACE IN VIENNA, IN PARTICULAR PHASED TRANSFER OF STAFF FROM NY AND GENEVA. BOTH SWISS AND AUSTRIANS HAVE RESPONDED FAVORABLY TO THIS APPROACH WHICH DAVIDSON HOPES WILL BECOME BASIS FOR REPORT BY SYG TO UPCOMING GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

2. PER REFTELA, AMB BENNETT AND MISOFF MET AUGUST 27 WITH USYG DAVIDSON TO DISCUSS SUBJECT. LATTER PROVIDED US WITH RUN DOWN OF DEVELOPMENTS TO DATE, INCLUDING HIS EFFORTS OVER PAST YEAR, WHICH HE CONSIDERED LARGELY SUCCESSFUL, TO GET AUSTRIANS TO TONE DOWN THEIR INSISTENCE THAT UN TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO FULLY OCCUPY DONAUPARK IMMEDIATELY, AND TO DISSUADE SWISS THAT UN EFFORTS TO UTILIZE DONAUPARK WOULD RESULT IN "DISMANTLING" ITS PRESENCE IN GENEVA.

3. ON SPECIFICS, DAVIDSON REPEATED HIS PROPOSAL REPORTED PARA 2, REFTEL B, I.E., OF UNCOMMITTED SPACE EXPECTED FOR 1000 STAFF IN VIENNA, ONE-HALF WOULD BE FILLED BY TRANSFER OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF FROM NY AND GENEVA AT RATE OF 50 EACH OVER NEXT FIVE YEARS, WITH REMAINING 500 BEING GENERAL
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SERVICE LOCAL HIRE IN VIENNA. SWISS TOLD DAVIDSON THEY

HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THIS APPROACH, AND AUSTRIANS (INCLUDING FOR MIN DESIGNATE PAHR, PERM REP JANKOWITSCH AND FOR MIN OFFICIAL KLESTAL) CONSIDER IT TO BE "SENSIBLE." DAVIDSON ADDED THAT HE FELT AUSTRIAN HESITANCY TO ENDORSE APPROACH WAS IN ORDER TO LEAVE DOOR OPEN UNTIL THEY OBTAIN PERSONAL APPROVAL OF CHANCELLOR KREISKY. IN RESPONSE TO DAVIDSON'S REQUEST FOR OUR VIEWS ON SUBJECT, AMB BENNETT REITERATED USG POSITION AND ADVISED THAT WE HAD NO PROBLEM WITH SPECIFIC PROPOSAL OUTLINED ABOVE.

4. DAVIDSON INTENDS TO PUT FORWARD AND PRESS HIS PROPOSAL WITH SYG WALDHEIM (SHOM HE WAS SEEING IMMEDIATELY AFTER OUR MEETING) AND, IF ACCEPTED, HE WILL USE IT AS BASIS FOR SYG REPORT TO 31ST UNGA. NEXT STEP, WHICH DAVIDSON CONSIDERS TO BE PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT, ESPECIALLY WITHIN UN SECRETARIAT, WILL BE FOR HIM TO IDENTIFY SPECIFIC UN UNITS TO BE TRANSFERRED TO VIENNA FOR INCLUSION IN SYG'S REPORT. HIS TOP THREE CANDIDATES ARE: (A) NY CENTER FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS AND GENEVA UN RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT; (B) UN DRUG ACITIVITIES IN GENEVA (DIVISION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS AND UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL, BUT POSSIBLY EXCLUDING LABORATORY); AND (C) SECRETARIAT SUPPORT SERVICES FOR CCD (CONFERENCE OF THE COMITE ON DISARMAMENT ON ASSUMPTION BODY ITSELF WILL AGREE TO VIENNA SITE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS. A FOURTH CANDIDATE, ON WHICH DAVI D-SON REQUESTED USG VIEWS, WAS NY CENTER FOR TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS SINCE IT IS A BODY WITH EXPECTED HIGH STAFF GROWTH (FROM PRESENT 12 TO 100 STAFF MEMBERS BEING DISCUSSED) WHICH WILL BE DIFFICULT TO ACCOMMODATE IN OVER CROWDED AVAILABLE NY SPACE AND SITUATION HERE COULD BECOME MORE CRITICAL IF EXISTING UNITS ARE EXPANDED AND/OR NEW ONES LOCATED IN NY (E.G., EXPANSION IN UN DISARMAMENT DIVISION AND NEW UMBRELLA UNIT FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS RESULTING FROM RECENT VANCOUVER CONFERENCE). OTHER POSSIBILITIES FOR RELOCATION FROM NY, NONE OF WHICH DAVIDSON WAS SUGGESTING, BUT WHICH HAVE SOME CONSTITUENT SUPPORT, ARE RESOURCES AND TRANSPORT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIVISIONS IN UN DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS.

5. POINTS CONTAINED PARA 3 REFTTEL A, WERE RAISED WITH DAVIDSON WHO REPLIED THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE ONLY A FEW OFFICES

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IN DONAUPARK WOULD BE UTILIZED BY MISSIONS TO ACCOMMODATE FOUR OR FIVE DELEGATIONS. HE ADDED THAT OCCUPANCY OF COMPLEX BY MISSIONS AS ANOTHER MEANS OF USING AVAILALBE SPACE, WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY INCLUDED IN SYG'S REPORT TO 30TH UNGA BUT REMOVED AT AUSTRIAN INSISTENCE SINCE IT WOULD HAVE WEAKENED THEIR CASE VIS-A-VIS THE UN, WAS ALTERNATIVE THAT MAY NOT FIND ITS WAY INTO THIS YEAR'S REPORT.

6. OTHER POINTS MENTIONED BY DAVIDSON WITHIN CONTEXT OF UN ACCOMMODATIONS ISSUE WERE: (A) OFFER BY IRAQ TO BUILD HEADQUARTERS FOR ECWA IN BAGHDAD AT COST TO GOI OF \$26-37 MILLION; (B) RECOMMENDATION BY UNCTAD NY LIAISON OFFICE DIRECTOR ARSENIS TO SYG COREA TO TRANSFER TO GENEVA EXTERNAL FINANCING AND DEVELOPMENT/TRADE PLANS AND PROJECTIONS BRANCHES, WITH COREA APPARENTLY IN AGREEMENT BUT NOT WANTING TO ACT FOR PRESENT; AND (C) EXPECTED STAFF GROWTH BY LATE 1979 IN NY REQUIRING ADDITIONAL 138,000 SQ. FEET OF OFFICE SPACE AND PROBLEM THIS PRESENTS SINCE UNGA RESOLUTION 3529 (XXX) PROHIBITS UN FOR PRESENT FROM ACQUIRING ADDITIONAL SPACE HERE.
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